

Seattle Commission for People with disabilities

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 18, 2013, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Seattle City Hall Room 370

Commissioners Present: Robert Canamar, Joshua Caple, Patricia Copeland, Steve Ferreira, Laura Gramer, Grace Oludiji, Ryan Troyer, Deborah Witmer

Commissioners Absent: Mark Adreon, Mike Barta, Hope Drummond, Vickie Foster, Carl Peterson, Jonathan Porter

Guests: Tim Shockley, Vicky Yuki, Jennifer Wieland

SOCR Staff Present: Felicia Yearwood

Call to Order: 4:30 by Laura Gramer

Approval of Minutes: March 2013 minutes approved as read

Comment: Steve Ferreira attended a student of color conference, which for the first time in 23 years included a caucus for students with disabilities

Guest Speakers:

Vicky Yuki, Department of Information Technology: Focus Group

The Department is planning focus groups for a technology indicators project and would like to have a focus group with people living with disabilities. Deborah Witmer agreed to serve as the Commission's point person. It was noted that some individuals disabilities might be able to participate in person, but might appreciate an opportunity to participate in the focus group via teleconference.

Jennifer Wieland, Department of Transportation: Public Space Management

The Street Use Group is developing a program piloting three parklets, miniature recreation areas in parking spaces. Commissioners offered feedback regarding accessibility issues.

SOCR Report: Felicia Yearwood

- Planning civil rights basic training for social service agencies; Commissioners are welcome to attend
- Art as Social Change symposium April 22-24
- Commissioners are encouraged to attend the Five Com meeting May 15th

Old Business

- Bullying video – Steve Ferreira accepted Commissioners' comments regarding the video.
- SB5180 Access to Higher Education bill has passed and will be signed. Executive Committee will send thank you letters to legislative sponsors and Governor Inslee.
- HB 1814 Accessible Transportation. Housing Subcommittee sent letter to Senate Transportation Committee co-chairs and full committee.
- South Lake Union affordable housing – SHRC did not write letter in support of affordable housing, so there is no follow up needed on this issue.

Committee Reports:

- Issues: Professional Fellow from Kazakhstan will be working from Mark's office Monday through Tuesday and at SOCR on Fridays. Transportation Forum to be held in June.
- Public Safety: Meeting at Charlie's Wednesday 6:00 p.m.; SPD Captain Edwards
 - expected to engage in substantive dialog
- Outreach: Suggestions were generated for meeting locations: 2100 Building, Northgate Library. It was noted that air conditioning is important for meetings in summer months.
- Nominating: Press release distributed, six applicants for three vacancies. Robert volunteered to review resumes, Deborah to serve on interview panel, Grace and Patt to telephone references.
- Disability Community Survey: Mark has communicated with the LGBT Commission regarding their Snapshot Report. Deborah has tried to schedule a meeting. All who are interested should try to meet within the next two weeks.

New Business

- Respectful Language: Tabled
- Service Animals: Jacque Larrainzar informed Laura Gramer and Mark Adreon that King County has different definitions and rules regarding service animals.
- Sensory Garden: Patt Copeland will attend a meeting at the Miller Community Center to gather support for a Sensory Garden near Woodland Park Zoo.

Project Report: Joshua Caple reported that he reviewed SOCR's Fair Housing Training. He found the closed captioning on the video to be ineffective and advised that the Commission should support the training if SOCR only after the captioning is improved.

Recognition: The Commission wishes Joshua well as his term of service on the Commission has come to an end. Joshua has served with distinction.